



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Jason Haas, District 14

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Supervisor Jason Haas Blasts Abele Administration for Placement of Sex Offenders **Haas Says Abele Administration Lied to Community About Placement in Residential Neighborhood**

Milwaukee County Supervisor Jason Haas was joined by Rep. Christine Sinicki, Ald. Terry Witkowski and neighbors from the 14th District at a Health and Human Needs Committee public hearing Wednesday in blasting County Executive Chris Abele's administration for placing sex offenders in a group home on Milwaukee's south side.

"This is an outrage perpetrated on the people of the 14th District," Haas said. "The community was lied to when they were told this group home would not house sex offenders. In answering direct questions about the placement of sex offenders in the neighborhood, representatives of the Matt Talbot facility where the offenders were to be placed categorically stated that there would be none at the facility.

"This is the sort of lie that has affected the neighborhood deeply. Communication in this matter completely broke down to the point of deception, and local residents are now left to deal with the results."

Haas accused Abele's administration of "running roughshod" over the community by placing sex offenders in the neighborhood.

"How can people trust the Abele administration when it lies to the entire neighborhood?" Haas said. "Chris Abele is in charge of mental health in Milwaukee County because he lobbied with Republicans in Madison to take away the County Board's oversight. He is responsible for this outrage and he is accountable to the neighborhood."

The community home is located at 429 W. Uncas Ave.

"Neighbors have a right to be upset," Haas said. "Under current circumstances and current law it is difficult to find a way for the Board to do anything about this placement. But neighbors should look to the Abele administration when they face the reality of having sex offenders in their quiet residential community."

Haas called on the Mental Health Board, which controls placement, to hold a public hearing on the issue at its December 15 meeting.

"The public was lied to, and the public needs to be heard if we are to have any chance of reversing this decision," Haas said.

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